

COMITE RIVER DIVERSION PROJECT



**FLOOD DAMAGE
REDUCTION**

- **Project Purpose:** Divert water from the Comite River to the Mississippi River to reduce flooding in the lower Comite River Basin.
- **Project Cost:** \$163 million
- **Project Schedule:** FY05 work includes continued construction of Lilly Bayou Control Structure and design of other project features
- **FY 05 Project Funding Required:** \$9.9m
- **Project Issues:** Funding in FY 2005 is not adequate to fully support the continued construction of the Lilly Bayou Control Structure or the design of other project features.





Project Fact Sheet

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District, CEMVN-PM-E
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Date: March, 2004

Comite River, Louisiana

PROJECT AUTHORITY: The Comite River Diversion Project was authorized for construction by the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992 (PL102-580, Section 101-11), dated October 31, 1992. The WRDA of 1996 dated October 12, 1996, reauthorized the project and WRDA of 1999 authorized to include cost of constructing new highway bridges over the diversion as a cost shared feature.

PROJECT SPONSORS: The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) is the non-Federal sponsor for construction of the project. The City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge (City-Parish) is non-Federal sponsor for operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation (OMRR&R) of the project. The Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District (ARBC) is the non-Federal sponsor for Flood Plan Management. ARBC will also contribute to construction of project for the local cost share.

PROJECT LOCATION: The Comite River is a right bank tributary of the Amite River, with a confluence near the city of Denham Springs, east of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The basin comprises approximately 348 square miles and includes portions of Wilkinson and Amite Counties in Mississippi, and East Feliciana and East Baton Rouge Parishes in Louisiana. The project is located between the Comite and the Mississippi Rivers north of the town of Baker, Louisiana and south of the town of Zachary, Louisiana.

PROJECT PURPOSE: The purpose of the project is to provide flood protection for the residents of the Comite River Basin. The authorized project will reduce stages on the Comite River from the diversion point to the confluence with the Amite River; on the Amite River from the confluence with the Comite River near Denham Springs to Port Vincent; and on Hurricane Creek, Robert Canal, and White's, Cypress and Bayou Baton Rouge.

PROJECT FEATURES: The authorized project provided for construction of a 12 mile long diversion channel from the Comite River to the Mississippi River, a diversion structure at the Comite River, guide levees, Lilly Bayou control structure, four drop structures at the intersections of the diversion channel with McHugh Road, Bayou Baton Rouge, Cypress Bayou, and White Bayou, and Highway and Railroad Bridges. Low-flow augmentation pumps at the intercepted streams and an earthen closure at Brooks Lake, clearing and snagging of Bayou Baton Rouge, White Bayou and Cypress Bayou north of the diversion channel to reduce flooding in those areas.

PROJECT COSTS:	<u>Total Project</u>
Total Project Cost	\$163,000,000
Total Federal Cost	\$115,000,000
Total Non-Federal Cost	\$ 48,000,000

PROJECT BUDGET/SCHEDULE: Funds required in FY 2005 are \$9.9 million. The President's budget of \$1.5 million will be used to minimally fund continuing construction of LBCS, Phase II with very limited funds remaining for ongoing design of other project features. An additional capability of \$8.4 million be used to fully fund the construction contract for LBCS, Phase II and continue design of other project features.

ISSUES: Funding in FY 2005 is not adequate to fully support the continued construction of the Lilly Bayou Control Structure or design of other project features.